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TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	10/603,437	
	Filing Date	June 24, 2003	
	First Named Inventor	Michael Graupe	
	Group Art Unit	1626	
	Examiner Name	Lambkin, Deborah	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission		Attorney Docket Number	1053R/US

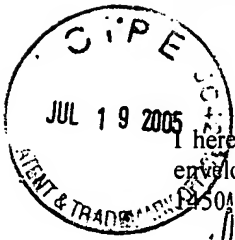
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Debra K. Bowen
Debra K. Bowen

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Michael Graupe et al.

Application No.: 10/603,437

Group Art Unit: 1626

Filed: June 24, 2003

Examiner: Deborah Lambkin

Title: PEPTIDIC COMPOUNDS AS CYSTEINE
PROTEASE INHIBITORS

Attorney Docket No.: 1053R/US

Dear Sir:

RESPONSE

This response is filed in reply to an Office Action mailed January 26, 2005, for which a response was due on February 26, 2005. Enclosed under separate cover is a petition for a four-month extension. Applicants request reconsideration of the restriction requirement in view of the following Remarks.

REMARKS

The Examiner has requested that Applicants elect one of the following two groups pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 121:

I. Claims 1-27, drawn to compounds, compositions and methods wherein R1, R1a, R2, R3, R4, R4a, and E does not contain a heterocyclic group, classified in class/subclass numerous depending on the elected species.